

CONFIDENTIAL

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Operations

FROM :
Chief, Information Services Staff
Management

SUBJECT : Security Implications in the State Department Filing System when Documents ~~Sent~~ to the National Archives (NARS)

1. It is standard practice for the State Department to retire records from its central decimal file to the National Archives (NARS) in five year increments as part of NARS Record Group 59. At the present time, files through 1949 have been accessioned. When these records are retired, the State Department publicly announces that they are open to the general public, subject to the terms of a Restriction Statement prepared by ~~xxxxxx~~ NARS in cooperation with the State Department. It then becomes the responsibility of NARS to carry out the terms of the Restriction Statement. When the central file is retired to ~~the~~ the National Archives, its index, which in the past was considered unclassified, is also retired. For the ~~xxxxxx~~ 1940-1944 period the index is in the form of folio volumes known as "purport books;" for the 1945-1949 period it is in the form of 3 x 5 cards. This index gives a summary of each document in the file, its location, and any cross-references (often as many as 5 to 7).

2. The Central Intelligence Agency ~~was~~ alerted in May 1977 to the fact that the ~~State Dept~~ central files in NARS contain documents which explicitly identify personnel of the CIA (and its predecessors, the OSS, SSU, and CIG)

The index also explicitly identifies individuals by name and their relationship with the Agency or its predecessors. All documents are also cross-indexed to identify their locations in different parts of the file. Although

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Next 3 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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